UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
National Bureau of Standards
Washington, D.C. 20234

December 16, 1976

MEMORANDUM FOR FIPS Points of Contact

From: Harry S. White, Jr.
         Associate Director for ADP Standards

Subject: FIPS Task Group 24 - Data Base Management Systems (DBMS)

The Federal Information Processing Standards Coordinating and Advisory
Committee (FIPSCAC) approved a scope and program of work, at its
November 18, 1976 meeting for the subject task group (copy attached).
The purpose of this memorandum is to solicit nominations for members
for Task Group 24.

The purpose of this task group is to make recommendations within one
year to FIPSCAC and NBS on the need for Federal data base management
system standards and any appropriate standards activities to meet such
needs. In order to satisfy the purpose of the task group within the
planned time frame, participants with a high degree of technical
expertise in DBMS technology and application are being sought. Task
group members will be selected on the basis of: their overall
experience with DBMS, knowledge of hierarchical network and relational
data models, direct experience installing or building a DBMS, systems
programming experience in maintaining a DBMS, experience as a data
base administrator, or experience in evaluation/performance measure-
ment of a DBMS.

The task group will be limited in membership to those having the above
mentioned capabilities. Those selected should plan on devoting two to
three days every four weeks for meetings with several days of prepara-
tion work between meetings. Please submit your nominations by
January 14, 1977 along with a description of their DBMS experience to:

> Mr. John L. Berg
> Chairman, Task Group 24
> National Bureau of Standards
> Room A265, Technology Building
> Washington, D.C. 20234
> (301) 921-3861

Those nominees selected will be announced prior to the initial meeting
of the task group. It is expected that all task group meetings will
be held at the Gaithersburg, Maryland, NBS facilities. It is antici-
pated that the initial meeting will be held in early February 1977.
Please contact Mr. Berg if you have any questions concerning the task
group and its activities.

Your continued support of the Federal Information Processing Standards
Program is most appreciated.

Attachment

FIPS TASK GROUP 24

Data Base Management Systems (DBMS)

Purpose

To make recommendations within one year to NBS and the FIPS Coordinating
and Advisory Committee on the need for Federal data base management
system standards and any appropriate standards activities to meet such
needs.

Scope

The task group will consider all areas within current data base technology
with a view towards defining relationships between DBMS and existing FIPS
activities and a more precise statement of the scope for recommended
standards activities. The area of study will include: distributed
processing and data bases, networking, data description languages, data
manipulation languages, data dictionary/directory functions, DBMS support
functions, and the role of mini/microcomputers in DBMS.

Program of Work

1. Determine the Federal need for DBMS standards. Consider Federal DBMS
standards in such technical areas as DDL-DML, minicomputers and networking.

2. Survey existing DBMS models, determine the relative merits to the
Federal agencies of the various models, and collect formal specifications.

3. Prioritize the various model specifications for detailed study.

4. For such model specification selected for detailed study, survey
existing implementations and review to what extent each model specification
feature was, in fact, implemented.

5. For each model specification selected for detailed study, make a formal
recommendation for Federal action.